

Approved  
as amended  
Feb 9, 2009  
ETN



# MINUTES ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

January 12, 2009

7:30 P.M.

City Hall, Council Chambers  
Fredericksburg, Virginia

## **MEMBERS**

Owen Lindauer, Chair  
Robin Wood, Vice Chair  
Barry Waldman  
Donna Chasen  
Lisa Peverill

## **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Vernon Danielsen

## **CITY STAFF**

Erik Nelson, Senior Planner  
Sheree Waddy, Recording Secretary

Mr. Lindauer called the Architectural Review Board to order at 7:30 p.m.

## **OPENING REMARKS**

Mr. Lindauer determined that a quorum was present. Mr. Nelson stated that public notice requirements had been met.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Mr. Lindauer called for nominations for Chair and Vice Chair.

Mr. Waldman nominated Owen Lindauer for Chair and Robin Wood for Vice Chair.

Mr. Lindauer asked if there were additional nominations. There were none.

Mr. Lindauer called for the vote. The motion carried unanimously.

## **REVIEW OF MINUTES**

Mr. Lindauer asked if there were any changes to the December 8, 2008 meeting minutes.

Mr. Waldman made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Ms. Chasen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. Lindauer asked if there were additional items for the agenda.

Mr. Waldman asked to add the following items:

Item 7 – Sign at 98 Caroline Street

Item 8 – Sign at 503 Caroline Street

Mr. Nelson asked to add the following items:

Item 9 – Discussion of Council Goals and Initiatives

Item 10 – Scheduling of an in-house training session

Ms. Chasen asked to add Item 11 – Update on ARB membership.

Mr. Waldman made a motion to accept the agenda as amended. Ms. Chasen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

## **DISCLOSURE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Lindauer asked if any board member had a conflict of interest or had participated in ex parte communications on any of the agenda items. No one said that they had.

## **APPLICATIONS – REGULAR AGENDA**

### **1. 311 Fauquier Street (William Hatch) - Fence**

The applicant, William Hatch, was present. He asked the Board if they could clarify the concerns they discussed at the last meeting.

There was no public comment.

Mr. Lindauer explained that when the Board reviewed the application in December there were questions about whether the entire retaining wall or just the Fauquier Street elevation would be refaced.

Mr. Hatch said only the façade along Fauquier Street would be refaced.

Mr. Lindauer said Mr. Danielsen (who was not present) had wanted additional information on how the new material would be bonded to the wall and had also wanted to speak with the applicant about refacing the entire wall.

Mr. Hatch explained that the failed material would be removed and the new material tied in with rods secured to the existing wall.

Mr. Waldman said that the replacement material was attractive and appropriate. He said the new material was clearly actual block and not a false façade, therefore making it easier to repair or replace.

Mr. Waldman said he found the proposed modifications to the fence and retaining wall to be architecturally compatible with the historic aspects of the Historic District and made a motion to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness. Ms. Wood seconded.

Ms. Chasen asked if any changes were proposed for the wooden fence.

Mr. Hatch said he planned to repair some of the rotten boards.

Mr. Lindauer called for the vote. The motion carried unanimously.

## **2. 620 Caroline Street (Inns of Historic Fredericksburg) – Signs**

Mr. Nelson explained that the applicants had requested a postponement and instead wanted to have an informal review with Board.

The applicant was present and represented by Rich Palmer (co-owner) and Brian Cook (Vice President of Operations). Mr. Palmer confirmed their request for a postponement.

There was no public comment.

Mr. Waldman made a motion to table the application for further consideration at the next regularly scheduled meeting. Ms. Chasen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

## **3. 317 Dixon Street (Margherita Phillips) – Signs and awning**

The applicant was not present.

There was no public comment.

Ms. Peverill asked if City Code required that lettering be allowed only on the awning drop leaf.

Mr. Nelson said yes.

Mr. Waldman said that when the sign was originally reviewed the Board recommended that it be framed and that it be mounted in the mortar joints. Unfortunately the sign was not framed and it appears to be mounted into the block instead of mortar joints. He said at this point he would not recommend that the sign be removed, but he would suggest that the sign be framed and that the awning be changed to meet City Code requirements.

Ms. Chasen agreed that the sign should be framed and if that required removing the sign then the block should be repaired and the sign should be remounted in mortar joints.

Mr. Lindauer noted that the framing would have no relevance to historic preservation. He recommended that the sign be retained as is and that the awning be brought into compliance with the City Code.

Mr. Waldman said he found the proposed signs and awning to be architecturally compatible with the historic aspects of the Historic District and made a motion to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness with the condition that the lettering on the awning be brought into compliance with City Code. Ms. Wood seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

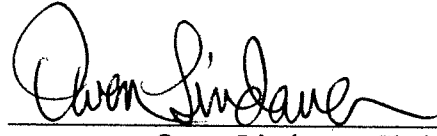
### **Other Business**

1. Informal review 620 Caroline Street (Inns of Historic Fredericksburg) – Rich Palmer (co-owner) and Brian Cook (Vice President of Operations) made a presentation on the proposed signs. Mr. Waldman asked if they had considered not using back lit signs. Mr. Palmer said they had and that it was possible to do the signs with overhang lights, but they preferred the back lit signs because they were more visible. Mr. Nelson said there was no prohibition against back lit signs in the Ordinance. Mr. Waldman said that the sign placement was better than expected and that the entire sign package was quite restrained. Mr. Palmer said they would present the application to the Board at the next regularly scheduled meeting. Mr. Palmer said they would also present information on proposed new doors.
2. Planning Commission agenda was transmitted. Mr. Nelson noted that the Planning Commission would be voting on 1200 Prince Edward Street.
3. Resolution regarding amendment to appeals process – Mr. Nelson said that the resolution had been amended to include Board comments made at the December meeting. Ms. Wood made a motion to approve the resolution. Ms. Peverill seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
4. Approval of 2008 Annual Report – Mr. Nelson said that the report was finalized. Mr. Waldman made a motion to approve the ARB 2008 Annual Report. Ms. Peverill seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
5. 1317 Charles Street – Mr. Nelson said that the Code Inspector had determined that the structure was unsafe and there was a possibility of demolition.
6. Transmission of Alliance Review – Mr. Nelson informed the Board that the Fredericksburg ARB had been cited for having best practices.
7. Sign at 98 Caroline Street – Mr. Waldman said that there was a very large construction sign on site but there did not appear to be any construction. Mr. Nelson said he would check into it.
8. Sign at 503 Caroline Street – Mr. Waldman said that a sign had been I-bolted into the siding. Mr. Nelson said he would check into it.
9. Council Goals and Initiatives – Mr. Lindauer said he had reviewed Council Goals and Initiatives and that items 1 and 8B were issues related to the ARB. He recommended that at Council's next meeting that a statement be presented outlining the Board's views on these issues. The Board discussed the items and decided that Mr. Nelson would develop a written statement for the Board's review and forward it to Council for the January 13th meeting.

*Mr. Nelson coordinated a response with Mr. Lindauer and e-mailed the Board's comments to the City Manager.*

10. In-house training session – Mr. Nelson said that he would like to delay the training until the vacancy on the Board was filled. The Board decided to tentatively schedule the training for the February 23 supplemental meeting.
11. Update on ARB Membership – Ms. Chasen asked what the status was on filling the vacancy. Mr. Nelson said that there had been no interviews. He said he would keep the Board informed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.



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Owen Lindauer, Chair